

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
57 MURRAY STREET
PERTH

In replying please quote

DDL/CT

LETTERS: BOX 134,
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All communications to be
addressed to the
"COMMISSIONER OF
PUBLIC HEALTH"

16th October, 1961.

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.,
Kettering Laboratory,
Department of Preventive Medicine
and Industrial Health,
College of Medicine,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati,
OHIO. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Kehoe,

I have just finished reading the Harben Lectures, 1960, on
The Metabolism of Lead in Man in Health and Disease, as they appeared
in the Journal of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

In my opinion, they contribute a major advance to our more
certain knowledge of the metabolism of lead. In addition, I have
found the substance of the lectures extremely useful in clarifying
the general principles involved in the metabolism of lead. As well
as congratulating you and your colleagues on this extremely valuable
contribution, I also wish to let you know that I am indeed grateful
for the help that it has given me.

One result of your work is that I shall commence to use blood
lead estimations on a wider scale. Before doing this I should appreci-
ate your advising me on techniques for making and keeping syringes and
needles lead-free. The simpler the technique the better, as it is my
intention to interest several institutions e.g. Princess Margaret
Hospital for Children and a number of individuals i.e. some of my
colleagues, in pursuing this investigation. If it were not practicable
for a private practitioner to have his syringes prepared in his own
surgery, it could be arranged that syringes be prepared in some central
place and dispersed. This, of course, would have disadvantages e.g.
delay in obtaining a syringe; but these would not be insurmountable.

Having given you an outline of the problem, I should be grate-
ful if you would advise me on the best method or methods to be under-
taken.

Yours faithfully,

D.D. Letham

(D.D. Letham)

PHYSICIAN
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH.

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